

EirGrid asks for comments and submissions in advance of decision on preferred route for power lines in North East

EirGrid invites anyone who has not yet submitted information as part of the public consultation process on the proposed power lines for Cavan/Tyrone and Meath/Cavan and who wishes to do so, to email or post their submission to EirGrid by the 11th of February, 2008

EirGrid intends to announce the preferred route for the Cavan /Tyrone and Meath/Cavan proposed power lines within weeks of receiving all remaining submissions.

Since early October 2007, EirGrid has been engaged in an extensive consultation process with the people of Meath, Cavan and Monaghan on three proposed routes. Over the last 15 weeks, EirGrid has been in communication with more than 5,000 people about the vital electricity power lines for this North East region.

EirGrid and its consultants will process all the information received in order to determine a preferred route. The consultation process will continue with landowners, residents and other stakeholders in relation to the preferred route and other aspects of the project. Following this consultation, EirGrid will submit a planning application to An Bord Pleanála, later in 2008.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared to deal with all relevant issues, including health concerns and undergrounding versus overhead lines. The EIS will be submitted with the planning application and will be available to the public. Members of the public have seven weeks to make submissions to the planning authority from the date of application to An Bord Pleanála.

EirGrid emphasises the critical need for these new transmission lines for the delivery of high quality power in sufficient quantities for the needs of all customers in the region. EirGrid strongly believes that its present proposal for the upgrading of the transmission system is the best one.

As part of the ongoing consultation process, EirGrid invites anyone who wishes to submit information relating to the choice of route corridors, to email or post their views to the following addresses by the 11th of February, 2008: by email MeathCavanPower@eirgrid.com or CavanTyroneInterconnector@eirgrid.com or by post to EirGrid Plc, 27 Lower Fitzwilliam St, Dublin 2.

Ends.